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**SUBJECT:** Certain observations concerning the Clark Committee Report on CIA.

3. The portion of the report from which we can draw the greatest amount of satisfaction and encouragement is the finding and conclusion which substantially vindicates the Agency with regard to the McCarthy-type charges of Communist infiltration and subversive design. The Clark Committee goes about as far as could ever be expected of any investigating committee in the direction of giving the Agency a clean bill of health. An almost equally important finding of a favorable

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character is that which certifies to our apparent regularity as regards the expenditure of unvouchered funds. In fact, if the report contained no other favorable elements than those relating to these two extremely critical points, we would have much to be thankful for, since it is in precisely these areas that the most serious charges have been hurled against the Agency and any appreciable measure of culpability would be most devastating. In order to appreciate fully the significance of these findings, the following points should be borne in mind:

a. Twice within a very short space of time the Glendestine Services have been thoroughly investigated and in each case -- although the approach and motivation were different -- we have come off clean and whole;

b. Although the Doolittle Committee was suspected by some of being friendly and generally well-disposed toward the Agency, there is no doubt that the group of hard-working individuals who made up that committee called their shots as they saw them, and would have considered it their duty to the President and to the public to point out all inadequacies, and worse, which they might have found;

c. Whatever else may be said of the outlook and orientation of the Clark Committee, certainly no one, repeat NO ONE, has ever suggested that its purpose was to "whitewash" the Agency -- if anything a contrary impression was created by certain statements and actions on the part of the Chairman which became matters of public knowledge, viz., the published report of his having called upon and solicited advice from Senator McCarthy, and the more or less public solicitation of any and all adverse information concerning CIA and its personnel; and

d. The fact that all enemies of the Agency and people with special axes to grind were given full opportunity by the Clark Committee to be heard, with the result that just about every "dead cat" that could be thrown was, in fact, cut loose at us -- but without appreciable adverse effect in so far as this can be determined from the contents of the report.

It is submitted that under the circumstances the personnel of this Agency are entitled to feel very reassured and, in fact, proud to belong to an organization which has so successfully withstood the acid test of these unprecedented investigations. I consider that

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we are entitled to hold our heads high and to indulge ourselves in a modest amount of self-congratulation. Certainly there is no longer any reason for the personnel of this Agency to feel that the Agency is under the gun or required to offer apologies.

/s/

FRANK G. WISNER  
Deputy Director (Plans)

cc: DCI  
IG  
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